by hydroxy, carboxy, halogen, alkoxy, amino groups; a polyoxy-alkylene chain of formula

 $[(CH_2)_n-O-(CH_2)_n]_m$ 

wherein n is 2 or 3 and m is an interger from 2 to 10; a  $C_{5}-C_{7}$  cycloalkyl group; an aryl or <u>hetaryl</u> group, preferably 1,3 or 1,4 disubstituted benzene.---

polysaccharide is salified with lipophilic cations.---

Tet ---7. (Amended) A process according to Claim 4 wherein the cross-linking reaction is carried out in anhydrous dimethylformamide or tetrahydrofuran.---

obtained cross-linked polyssaccharide is further subjected to sulfation of the hydroxy groups by reaction with pyridine/sulfur trioxide complex.---

cross-linked, optionally sulfated polysaccharide, is further subjected to complexation reacton with aqueous solutions of copper, zinc or iron ions.---

--(11) (Amended) Cross linked polysaccharides obtainable by the process of Claim 4.---

## REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted in order to conform the claims to U.S. practice by eliminating multiple dependency of claims.